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Modern Necessity"; and the addresses of Benjamin F. Trueblood alluded to above.

Dr. Brooks read to the Congress on the last day messages of greeting from nearly all the peace and arbitration societies in the country and from several individuals.

All the exercises were followed by the audience with close attention and deep interest. The applause showed that the hearers were in sympathy with the highest ideals and the most advanced practical positions on the subject of world peace. An attempt of one of the speakers to defend the necessity and righteousness of war under certain supposed conditions was barely tolerated with courtesy by the audience, who showed it to be their strong conviction that the day for such apologies for the ancient evil of war has gone by.

The chief significance, however, of this Texas Congress was not in the character of the speeches nor in the size and marked interest of the audiences. It lay in the fact that the meeting marked the entrance of the peace movement in this country upon a new period of expansion and development. This was the first peace congress ever held in the Southwest, or even in the entire South. The movement in entering Texas enters upon a very fruitful soil. The population of Texas is growing rapidly and is very cosmopolitan. The people are naturally fitted by their inheritance from many of the older States and many parts of the world to entertain and help to work out the largest conceptions of the welfare of the nation and of the world. Texas, nearly all of whose principal cities were represented in the Waco Congress, may be expected to make in the years just before us a great and notable contribution toward the solution of the still difficult problem of world peace, and the relief of the peoples of the earth from the immense and ever-increasing burdens which militarism imposes upon them.

At the close of the Congress a conference was held to discuss the advisability of the formation of a Texas State Peace Society. More than one hundred persons attended. After an hour's discussion, in which the importance of such an organization and the difficulties in the way of its maintenance were clearly brought out, it was voted unanimously and enthusiastically to proceed to the creation of the society. A committee was appointed to consult with other sections of the State, to take a provisional list of members and to draft a constitution for the organization. We may expect, therefore, in a short time to see the peace movement in this country strengthened by the addition to its forces of a large and strong Texas contingent.

### The Central American Conference.

The Conference of Central American Republics, which was called by Presidents Roosevelt and Diaz for the promotion of more friendly relations among them, opened in Washington November 14. Although it is too

early to report upon its results, as these will not be made public until its entire work is finished, it is gratifying to note that the Conference opened under favorable conditions. The arrangements connected with the protocol were made with satisfaction to all interested parties. Provision for the meetings and entertainment of the delegates was put into the hands of Hon. John Barrett, the Director of the Bureau of American Republics, who in the administration of his department is familiar with the needs and characteristics of these nations. The delegations appointed consist of some of the most eminent men of Guatemala, Honduras, San Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Nearly every one of them is a lawyer of high standing or experienced in the affairs of state. One of them is an ex-president of his country. The Conference is fortunate in having associated with it, as special delegates, Hon. William I. Buchanan for the United States and ex-Ambassador Creel for Mexico, both of whom are thoroughly informed as to the conditions in Central America and are well known as friends of arbitration and peace. Mr. Carnegie, who was a delegate to the first Pan-American Conference in 1889, and has presented the Bureau of American Republics with a sufficient sum of money for its new building, attended a reception given to the delegates, at which he appealed to them to act towards one another like brothers, and in the future endeavor to settle their disputes by law and not by arms. His address called forth an appreciative response from Dr. Anderson of the delegations, who expressed the hope that in the near future all the people, not only in Central, but in South and North America, would join in Mr. Carnegie's sentiments and call themselves brothers.

That the Conference is expected to put its sentiments into deeds there can be no doubt. President Roosevelt, in a speech at a dinner which he gave to the delegates, urged them to do something practical. Secretary Root, who presided at their first session, charged them more specifically. While in the past agreements among these countries seem to have been written in water, Mr. Root believed that the time had been reached when a permanent step might be taken towards prosperity and peace. "But," he said, "the all-important thing for you to accomplish is to devise some practical method under which it will be possible to secure the performance of your agreements. The mere declaration of general principles and mere agreement upon lines of policy and of conduct are of little value unless there be practical and definite methods provided for, by which the responsibility for failing to keep the agreement may be fixed upon some definite person, and the public sentiment of Central America brought to bear to prevent its violation."

All who are familiar with the repeated failures of the

national constitutions of the Central American States, through revolution, and the attempts made to federate them, either by force or by appeal to mutual interests, will eagerly watch the effort of the United States and Mexico to put the relations of these hitherto contentious countries on a just and permanent basis. It is a use of friendly offices which is worthy of these two great peace-loving republics and cannot be to highly commended. It is hoped that the distinguished representatives, who have come together at their call and been given such a favorable start in their work, will try every reasonable means to meet expectations. Too long already, for an age of Pan-American and Hague Conferences, has Central America been the reproach of the world for its bickerings and quarrels. May it hereafter be known for its stability in government, fraternity and peace.

### Editorial Notes.

Peace  
Sunday.

The American Peace Society again calls the attention of the ministers, churches and Sunday schools of the country to the usual annual observance of the third Sunday in December as Peace Sunday. A considerable number of clergymen have already placed the day on their regular church calendar, and do not need to have their attention called to the subject. Others, for various reasons, have not yet recognized the importance of the matter. This year it is to be hoped that none of the American churches and religious organizations will fail to recognize the obligation they are under to do all in their power, severally and unitedly, to promote the complete and permanent friendship and fellowship of the peoples and nations of the world. Christianity is a religion of love and benevolence, and is fundamentally opposed to hatred, race antagonism and international strife and brutal conflict. It has no greater and more inspiring mission on its social side than to bring about an era of love, of perpetual and universal goodwill and mutual service among the races and nations of men. The Hague Conference just closed has done much to forward the ultimate union and federation of the world, the result of which will be settled peace and consequent limitation and reduction of armaments. But it has left much undone. The churches are quite as responsible as anybody else that it did not do more. What the next Hague Conference will do to complete the work still undone will depend very much upon them. They are perhaps the chief agency in this country in the creation of commanding public opinion. Let them speak, this coming Christmas time, on Peace Sunday or some other suitable day, with one voice, more strongly than they have ever done before, and demand that the great law of love and justice shall rule in all the relations of our government and people to the other peoples and governments of the world. Let them insist that the time

has gone by when war can any longer be excused in our intelligent modern society, and that the nations should hasten by all possible means the processes which are working out the federation and peace of the world.

If you have anything against a man, if Emperor William in England you fancy he has something against you, you can do nothing better than make him a friendly visit. It will tend to right misunderstandings, allay suspicion and soothe hard feeling. This principle holds good not only in personal but in international relations. Rarely has this been better illustrated than on the occasion of the visit of Emperor William to England. We cannot say, of course, that his visit was undertaken avowedly for conciliation, but the circumstances between the two countries were such that it worked to that end. It was made when many Englishmen believed the Germans to be preparing for war against them, and when several leading English newspapers fostered sentiments of hatred by printing invidious articles about the Emperor and his people. To make a visit at such a time required real moral courage; no sovereign to whom personal pride is the first consideration would have thought of it. On the other hand, the courtesies required of the English nation were such as to put it to a supreme test. We are rejoiced to see that England rose to her true greatness and met the test. The Emperor and the Empress visited London the middle of November. They were entertained at Windsor by King Edward and given a reception in the Guildhall by the Lord Mayor and Corporation. The streets were decorated for the imperial procession as they have scarcely been since the coronation of the king. No unpleasant incident occurred, but everywhere the greetings were hospitable and hearty. At the Guildhall eight hundred persons of distinction, including representatives of the army and navy, were seated at the tables. The Emperor was presented with a magnificent gold casket. In reply, he recalled his speech made at the Guildhall in 1891, when he declared it to be his unalterable desire and purpose to preserve the peace of the world. "I said then on this spot," he continued, "that my aim was, above all, the maintenance of peace. History, I venture to hope, will do me justice in that I have pursued this aim unwaveringly ever since. The main prop and base for the peace of the world is the maintenance of good relations between our two countries, and I will further strengthen them so far as lies in my power. The German nation's wishes coincide with mine. The future will then show a bright prospect and commerce may develop among the nations who have learned to trust one another." The visit of the Emperor was indeed timely. His generous, fraternal words have quieted some of the foolish fears of war which people had entertained, and which had caused anxiety even in